

As Congress faces the challenge of reducing federal spending, we need every effective tool available. Last week the house passed The Legislative Line Item Veto Act of 2006 which will return limited line item veto authority to the President, allowing the White House to identify wasteful spending and send a list of proposed cuts to Congress for approval. The line item veto adds "enhanced rescission" to the deficit-cutter's toolbox.

In 1997 President Clinton used the line-item veto to cut spending 82 times, helping bring the budget into balance. Currently 44 states use a line item veto to help control spending. I applaud the House for passing this important, bipartisan legislation.